

Free Papers

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ARE BOTH MAMMOGRAPHY AND ULTRASONOGRAPHY ESSENTIAL IN THE EVALUATION OF A BREAST LUMP?

D. M. H. S. G. B. Dissanayaka, M. I. M. De Zoysa, S. Sivaganesh.,
 Professorial Surgical Unit, National Hospital of Sri Lanka,
 Colombo, Sri Lanka

Introduction

Breast cancer is the commonest malignancy in women. The sensitivity of diagnostic mammography is estimated around 86 percent and specificity around 88 percent. Diagnostic breast ultrasound can improve the specificity of clinically detected abnormalities.

Ultrasound is cheaper, safer, more readily available, and comfortable for the patient than mammography.

Material & Methods

Two hundred and five consecutive patients with breast lumps who were referred for diagnostic mammography and ultrasound during the period 1st of January 2005 to 31st March 2006 were studied. Data was collected from Ultrasound, Mammography and histology reports of the patients. The data was analyzed using the SPSS Program.

Results

The Median age of the patients was 48years (range 30-85)

Mammography	Carcinoma		Ultrasound	Carcinoma	
	Positive	Negative		Positive	Negative
Positive	68	5	Positive	62	4
Negative	13	119	Negative	19	120
Sensitivity	0.839	84%	Sensitivity	0.765	76%
Specificity	0.959	96%	Specificity	0.967	97%
Positive Predictive Value	0.931	93%	Positive Predictive Value	0.939	94%
Negative Predictive Value	0.901	90%	Negative Predictive Value	0.863	86%